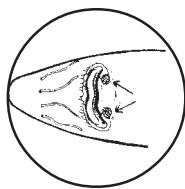


ATTENTION HOOK AND LINE STURGEON ANGLERS

The Mississippi River drainage currently contains two different species of sturgeon, the lake sturgeon and the shovelnose sturgeon. Both sturgeon species have historically inhabited the Mississippi, Wisconsin, St. Croix, and Chippewa rivers. Before you remove a sturgeon from the water, make sure you know whether the fish is a shovelnose or a small lake sturgeon. Because lake and shovelnose sturgeon are managed with different regulations, it is very important that you be able to tell the difference between these two fish.

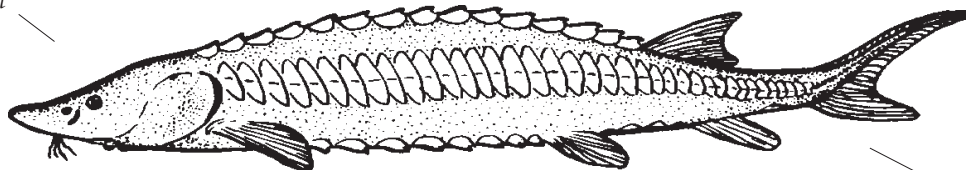
LAKE STURGEON

The lake sturgeon is a rare or endangered species in almost every state except Wisconsin. It is a typical inhabitant of large rivers and lakes. The lake sturgeon is a primitive fish that grows to be the largest and oldest fish living in the state. A lake sturgeon 82 years old and weighing 180 pounds was taken from Lake Winnebago during the winter of 1953. Lake sturgeon populations have been drastically reduced nearly everywhere, primarily because dams prevent the fish from reaching their preferred spawning areas. A lake sturgeon can be identified by the following characteristics:



Underside of lake sturgeon - look for smooth barbels and two lobes on the lower lip.

Short, conicle snout



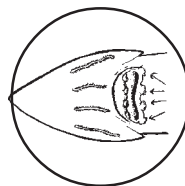
Lake sturgeon, *Acipenser fulvescens*

Short, stout, partially naked tail area

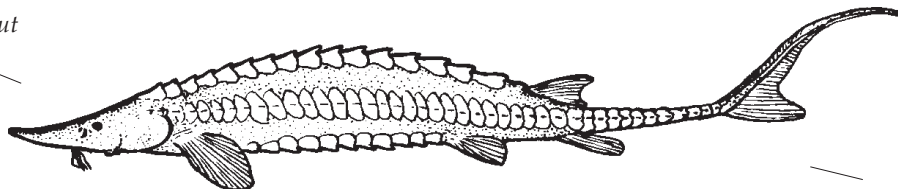
SHOVELNOSE STURGEON

The shovelnose sturgeon is also a very primitive fish that inhabits deep channels of large rivers. It is much smaller than the lake sturgeon with adults typically measuring 25-30 inches and rarely reaching weights of 8 pounds. Numbers of shovelnose sturgeon have also declined due to continuing development and habitat modification in our large rivers. A shovelnose sturgeon can be identified by the characteristics found below:

Long, spade-shaped snout



Underside of shovelnose sturgeon - look for fringed barbels and four lobes on the lower lip.



Shovelnose sturgeon, *Scaphirhynchus platyrhynchus*

Long, slender, heavily armored tail area

INFORMATION ON HOOK AND LINE LAKE AND SHOVELNOSE STURGEON SEASONS, BAG LIMITS, AND LENGTH LIMITS ON BACK

(over)

Hook and Line Sturgeon Season Information

INLAND REGULATIONS

Species	Hook and Line Open Season	Daily Bag Limit	Length Limit
Lake sturgeon	Chippewa River: West Fork downstream from Moose Lake Dam (Sawyer Co.) and East Fork (Ashland Co.) downstream to the confluence of the Mississippi River (Pepin Co.) including sloughs, bayous, and flowages. Flambeau River: N Fork from Turtle-Flambeau Dam (Iron Co.) and S Fork (Price Co.) downstream to the confluence with the Chippewa River (Rusk Co.) including sloughs, bayous, and flowages. Butternut Lake (Price Co.) Jump River from the North and South Forks to the confluence with the Chippewa River (Rusk Co.); Yellow Lake, Little Yellow Lake, Danbury Flowage Yellow River from Yellow Lake downstream to the Danbury Dam (Burnett Co.).season open from 1st Saturday in September to October 15 Wisconsin River from the WI Dells Dam downstream All other inland waters - no open season	1 per season (To harvest a lake sturgeon, an angler must possess a sturgeon tag. Lake sturgeon taken with hook and line must be registered) 1 per season -----	50 inches 50 inches odd years 70 inches even years
Shovelnose sturgeon	Lower Wisconsin River from the Prairie du Sac Dam downstream - open all year All other inland waterr - no open season	3 -----	none -----

IOWA-WISCONSIN WATERS

BOUNDARY WATER REGULATIONS

Lake sturgeon	No open season	----	----
Shovelnose sturgeon	Continuous open season	none	none

MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN WATERS

Lake Sturgeon	Mississippi R., St. Louis R., and the St. Croix R. upstream from the St.Croix Falls Dam St. Croix River downstream from the St. Croix Falls Dam- season open from the 1st Saturday in September to October 15	No open season	
Shovelnose sturgeon	All boundary waters above the Red WingDam on the Mississippi R., St. Louis R., St. Croix R. All boundary waters below the Red Wing dam on the Mississippi River -season open all year	No open season 10 per day	----- none

MICHIGAN-WISCONSIN WATERS

Lake Sturgeon	All boundary waters - season open from 1st Saturday in September to November 1st.	1 per season	50 inches odd years 70 inches even years
Shovelnose sturgeon	Shovelnose sturgeon do not inhabit these waters	----	----

GREAT LAKES REGULATIONS

LAKE SUPERIOR

Lake Sturgeon	Continuous open season	1 per year	50 inches
Shovelnose sturgeon	Shovelnose sturgeon do not inhabit these waters	----	----

LAKE MICHIGAN

Lake Sturgeon	No open season	----	----
Shovelnose sturgeon	Shovelnose sturgeon do not inhabit these waters	----	----